Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W ----- 054888

R 131603Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE 3315 INFO USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/IVP/MR, CU/EE, EUR/SOV; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJ: MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT IN ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARTS

REF: STATE 187395

- 1. ARTS ADMINISTRATION PROJECT DISCUSSED WITH BUTROVA DURING MINCULT CALL AUGUST TWELVE BY P&C COUNSELOR AND CAO.
- 2. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY POINT THAT BUTROVA HAD HAD DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN US, SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS NOT IN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE BUT HAD BEENWITH HUSBAND ASSIGNED AS COUNSLOR OF EMBASSY AND HER ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS THERE WAS WORKING WIFE. EMBOFFS ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT PROJECT GAVE PREFERENCE TO THOSE WHO DID NOT HAVE EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF US AND HAD NOT VISITED THERE. BUTROVA OBSERVED THAT SHE HAD NOT TRAVELED WIDELY ON CULTURAL SCENE AND WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SEEING THE WIDE RANGE OF PERFORMING ARTS OFFERED BY PROJECT.
- 3. ON EMB. COMMENT THT SHE HAD BEEN TO US SEVERAL TIMES AT US EXPENSE (REFTEL, PARA 2), BUTROVA SAID DEPT. HAD FINANCED ONLY ONE TRIP: TO OBSERVE POSSIBLE CU/ARTS PRESENTATIONS FOR USSR. THIS TRIP, ACCOMPANIED BY MOXHAY, INVOLVED INTERNAL EXPENSES ONLY AND WAS NOT OF LEADER GRANT OR ORIENTATION CHARACTER. (IF DEPT. KNOWS CONFIDENTIAL

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OF OTHER TRIPS AT US EXPENSE, ADVISE DETAILS.)

4. PUTTING ASIDE FOR THE MOMENT CONFLICTING INFORMATION ON FINANCES AND PREVIOUS TRAVEL, EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE BUTROVA PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM ULTIMATELY IN US INTEREST IF KOKONIN NOT BUMPED FROM PARTICIPATION. DEPT./EMB. HAVE LONG SOUGHT SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN APPROPRIATE MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS, AND MUST MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS IF IT IS TO BE OBTAINED. FOR EXAMPLE, MHE LAST YEAR WAS INVITED TO NOMINATE TWO CANDIDATES FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROJECT WHEN SOVIETS FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SEND SINGLE CANDIDATE. IN PRINCIPLE. WE BELIEVE CONCEPT OF TWO PARTICIPANTS TO BE WORKABLE IN CERTAIN PROJECTS. IN THIS CASE, WE BELIEVE KOKONIN CAN GET PERMISSION TO GO, BUT THERE IS POSSIBILITY SOVIET POSITION WILL BE THAT TWO SHOULD SURVEY U.S. ARTS SCENE AND MAKE ANY SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATIONS. THUS WE SHOULD NOT PLACE OURSELVES IN "EITHER KOKONIN OR NOTHING" POSITION

5. POINT MADE PARA 2 REFTEL "CHANGING KNOWN VIEWS ABUT US" IS NOT GOAL OF BUTROVA PARTICIPATION IN ANY CASE. WE DEAL WITH REAL WORLD IN USSR AND DO NOT EXPECT TO SLIP ANYTHING OVER ON SOVIETS NO MATTER WHAT ATTITUDES KOKNIN DEVELOPS THROUGH TRIP. BUTROVA WILL HAVE TO RULE ON CULTURAL POLICIES AND PROPOSED US GROUPS RECOMMENDED BY KOKONIN WHETHER OR NOT SHE PARTICIPATES IN TRIP. PARTICIPATION, HOWEVER, SHOULD GIVE HER WIDER EXPOSURE TO US PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS, TO OUR COMPLEX SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ARTS, AND TO HER COUNTERPART AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE LEADERS. THIS INCREASED EXPOSURE, WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNICATION AND EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE, IS OUR GOAL IN MAKING NOMINATION. BECAUSE OF PRESENT OBSTACLES IN US-USSR RELATIONS C#THE

ARTS, THIS INCREASED COMMUNICATION CAN ONLY BE AN ATTEMPT AT IMPROVEMENT--AND ANY IMPORVEMENT SHOULD BE SOUGHT. WHATEVER WE DO ON THIS PROJECT, WE CANNOT MAKE BUTROVA DISAPPEAR AS AN ELEMENT IN OUR CULTURAL RELATIONS, SO WE RECOMMEND TRYING TO BUILD WITH WHAT WE HAVE. WE NOTE THAT IF SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL THAT BUTROVA WOULD WISH SPEND CONFIDENTIAL

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SO MUCH TIME EXPANDING HER EXPOSURE TO US ARTS SCENE AND SUGGEST WE TAKE ADVANTAGE.

7. ADVISE SOONEST. STOESSEL

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 AUG 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW11465

Document Number: 1975MOSCOW11465 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750280-0159

From: MOSCOW Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750856/aaaabxme.tel Line Count: 113 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION CU Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 STATE 187395
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>

Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT IN ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARTS

TAGS: OEXC, UR To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006